

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A light beam position detecting device detects the passage positions of a plurality of light beams for scanning the surface of a photosensitive drum.

5 The light beam position detecting device has a sensor pattern for generating an output which is continuously changed in a wide range with a variation in the passage position of the light beam in a sub-scanning direction perpendicular to a main scanning direction of the
10 light beam. The sensor pattern precisely detects the relative scanning position of the light beam in a wide range. The passage positions of the plurality of light beams for scanning the surface of the photosensitive drum are controlled to a preset position based on the
15 output of the sensor pattern.

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